



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1997/2
15 January 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Organizational session for 1997
23 January and 4-7 February 1997
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227: Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields.
5. Review of the subsidiary bodies of the Council.
6. Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.
7. Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields.
8. Elections, nominations and confirmations.

Annotations

Item 1. Election of the Bureau

1. Rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Council provides that each year at the commencement of its 1st meeting, the Council shall elect a President and four Vice-Presidents from among the representatives of its members. The membership of the Council in 1997 is given in the annex below. According to the rotation of the office of President among the regional groups, the President for 1997 should be the representative of a member of the Eastern European States



group. The four Vice-Presidents of the Council shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution from the other four regional groups.

2. The President and the Vice-Presidents shall constitute the Bureau. The Council, upon the recommendation of the President, shall decide on the special responsibilities of each Vice-President.

3. Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77, a meeting of the Council will be held on 23 January 1997 for the election of the Bureau.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

4. Rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Council provides that, at the beginning of each session, after the selection of the Bureau when required under rule 18, the Council shall adopt the agenda for the session.

5. The attention of the Council is drawn to annex II of General Assembly resolution 48/162, in particular section D, which sets out the agenda for the substantive session of the Council. The present provisional agenda has been prepared in conformity with the indications therein and with other relevant legislative decisions, including, in particular, the provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/227.

Item 3. Basic programme of work of the Council

6. In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Council shall draw up, at its organizational session, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, its basic programme of work.

7. The Council will have before it the proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1997 and 1998 prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly.

8. Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Council, the President, prior to the organizational session, and with the cooperation of the other members of the Bureau, will arrange for consultations with members of the Council on the draft programme of work and provisional agenda prepared by the Secretary-General and make proposals thereon for consideration by the Council.

9. In its decision 1996/310 of 13 November 1996, the Council decided that the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1997 should be devoted to the following theme: "Fostering an enabling environment for development - Financial flows, including capital flows; Investment; Trade".

10. In its decision 1996/310 of 13 November 1996, the Council also decided that the coordination segment of its substantive session of 1997 should be devoted to consideration of the following themes: "Mainstreaming of gender perspectives into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system"; and "Fresh water, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation".

11. In its decision 1996/310 of 13 November 1996, the Council further decided that the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 1997 should be devoted to the following theme: "Funding for operational activities for development: implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227".

Documentation

Proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1997 and 1998
(E/1997/1)

Proposals by the Bureau of the Council on the proposed basic programme of work of the Council for 1997 and 1998

Item 4. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227: Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields

12. At its resumed substantive session of 1996, the Council postponed until its organizational session for 1997 consideration of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227: Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (Council decision 1996/320 of 20 November 1996). Prior to that decision, the Council had held a number of informal consultations on the matter. To facilitate those consultations, the Secretariat prepared a number of informal papers including an analysis of the agenda items of the Council and a comparison thereof with items considered by the Second and Third Committees of the Assembly; a note on the implementation of Assembly resolution 50/227: provisions related to the Economic and Social Council; and an informal paper on the outcome of informal Council discussions on Assembly resolution 50/227.

Item 5. Review of the subsidiary bodies of the Council

13. Pursuant to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/227 the Council should, inter alia, undertake a review of the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of its functional commissions and expert groups and bodies, in order to ensure more effective and coordinated discussions and outcomes of their work. In its resolution 1996/41 B, the Council requested the Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive document compiling information on the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of the functional commissions and expert groups and bodies and to submit it to the Council not later than February 1997.

14. In its resolution 51/211 A the General Assembly invited the Economic and Social Council to request all of its subsidiary bodies that were authorized to meet away from their established headquarters to review, in the interest of improved efficiency and cost-effectiveness, the exception to the headquarters rule in the light of the current situation of their work, and to make recommendations thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the Assembly at its fifty-second session. To this end, the Secretariat has prepared a note on venues of sessions of subsidiary bodies of the Council.

Documentation

Subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in the economic, social and related fields: report of the Secretary-General (E/1996/97)

Working methods of the Council's subsidiary bodies: note by the Secretariat (E/1996/97/Add.1)

Venues of sessions of subsidiary bodies of the Council: note by the Secretary-General

Item 6. Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

15. At its resumed substantive session of 1996, the Council postponed until its organizational session for 1997 consideration of the draft decision entitled "Documentation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations" (Council decision 1996/318 of 20 November 1996).

16. At its 56th plenary meeting, on 20 November 1996, the Council welcomed the initiative of the Secretariat to prepare, for the information of Member States, an assessment on ways and means to deal with the documentation requests emanating from the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its session in 1997.

17. At its resumed substantive session of 1996, the Council, in its decision 1996/313 of 14 November 1996, inter alia, took note of the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations that the National Society for Human Rights be granted special consultative status with the Council, and agreed to take a decision on the issue at its organizational session of 1997 noting, in that context, the intention of the Government of Namibia to supply relevant information at that session.

Documentation

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Karel Kovanda (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft decision III contained in the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1996/102) (E/1996/L.57) (Programme budget implications of draft decision E/1996/L.57 are contained in document E/1996/L.58)

Assessment of ways and means to deal with documentation requests emanating from the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations: note by the Secretariat

Item 7. Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields

18. At its second regular session of 1982, the Council decided to identify, at its annual organizational session, a subject related to interregional cooperation, of common interest to all regions, for detailed consideration under the agenda item on regional cooperation. The Council will have to decide on the

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subject to be selected so that a section on interregional cooperation dealing with the topic selected can be included in the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation.

19. Additionally, as requested by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in its resolution 553 (XXVI), the Council will also have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and their impact on ECLAC.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General concerning the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and their impact on the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (E/1997/5)

Item 8. Elections, nominations and confirmations

Postponed elections

20. The Council is called upon to hold elections and nominations, postponed from previous sessions, to the following bodies:

Commission on Population and Development

From Asian States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000;

From Latin American and Caribbean States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

Commission for Social Development

From Asian States: three members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Eastern European States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Latin American and Caribbean States: three members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot.

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

From Western European and other States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997.

Commission on Human Settlements

From African States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999;

From Asian States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 and one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999;

From Latin American and Caribbean States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

From African States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999 and one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997;

From Asian States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999;

From Latin American and Caribbean States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999; two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997;

From Western European and other States: three members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

Committee on Natural Resources

From Asian States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Eastern European States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Latin American and Caribbean States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Western European and other States: three members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot.

Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and Energy for Development

From African States: six members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Asian States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Eastern European States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Latin American and Caribbean States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot;

From Western European and other States: one member for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on a date to be determined by lot.

Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

21. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/72 of 12 December 1996, the Council will be called upon to elect two additional members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Postponed nominations

Committee for Programme and Coordination

22. In accordance with General Assembly decision 51/305 of 14 October 1996, the Council will be called upon to nominate two members for election by the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-first session, as follows:

From Western European and other States: two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

Confirmations

23. The Secretary-General will submit for confirmation by the Council the names of persons nominated to serve as representatives on the functional commissions of the Council since the close of the organizational session for 1996.

Annex

MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL FOR 1997

	<u>Term expires on</u> <u>31 December</u>
Argentina	1998
Australia	1997
Bangladesh	1998
Belarus	1997
Brazil	1997
Canada	1998
Cape Verde	1999
Central African Republic	1998
Chile	1999
China	1998
Colombia	1997
Congo	1997
Côte d'Ivoire	1997
Cuba	1999
Czech Republic	1998
Djibouti	1999
El Salvador	1999
Finland	1998
France	1999
Gabon	1998
Gambia	1999
Germany	1999
Guyana	1998
Iceland	1999
India	1997
Jamaica	1997
Japan	1999
Jordan	1998
Latvia	1999
Lebanon	1998
Luxembourg	1997
Malaysia	1997
Mexico	1999
Mozambique	1999

Term expires on
31 December

Netherlands	1997
Nicaragua	1998
Philippines	1997
Poland	1997
Republic of Korea	1999
Romania	1998
Russian Federation	1998
South Africa	1997
Spain	1999
Sri Lanka	1999
Sudan	1997
Sweden	1998
Thailand	1997
Togo	1998
Tunisia	1998
Turkey	1999
Uganda	1997
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1998
United States of America	1997
Zambia	1999



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1997/3
3 February 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Organizational session for 1997
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL

Letter dated 30 January 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, I have the honour to request the inclusion in the agenda of the substantive session of 1997 of an additional item entitled "Proclamation of the year 2000 as the International Year of Mountains".

The decision to draw the international community's attention to the problems of mountain ecosystems, and on the proclamation of the year 2000 as the International Year of Mountains was adopted by the participants in the International Conference "Mountain research: challenges and prospects in the twenty-first century", held in Bishkek, the capital of the Kyrgyz Republic, from 14 to 18 October 1996. This initiative was supported by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Askar Akaev, in his address to the participants in the Conference and appeal to the United Nations General Assembly.

I also consider it important to note that, at its substantive session of 1995, the Economic and Social Council approved the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the work of its third session, in which, in its discussion of progress in implementing Agenda 21, the Commission recognized that mountain ecosystems and environments are of crucial importance as rich and unique centres of biological and cultural diversity, water stores and sources of minerals.

* E/1997/2.



My Government is prepared to submit the necessary documentation within the relevant time-limits and will take measures to ensure the cooperation of interested organizations and States Members of the United Nations in this initiative.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Economic and Social Council.

(Signed) Zamira ESHMAMBETOVA
Permanent Representative
of the Kyrgyz Republic
to the United Nations

Annex I

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The International Conference "Mountain research: challenges and prospects in the twenty-first century" was held in Bishkek, the capital of the Kyrgyz Republic, from 14 to 18 October 1996. The work of the Conference was organized around the main branches of science dealing with research in the area of mountain ecosystems: earth science; the natural sciences; medicine, economy and education; and communications systems and exchange of information.

During this important event in the cultural life of the region, leading scholars from Europe, Asia and North America discussed a wide range of issues directly related to the vital activities of present-day people living in mountainous areas. Such issues included: human adaptation to alpine conditions, the general pathology and the curative properties of the mountain climate, distinctive features of the social environment and mentality of mountain peoples, and economic development and demographic stability in mountain regions. A broad discussion was held on such earth science problems as the geomechanics of, and natural disasters occurring in, mountain ecosystems; glaciology and water resources; the mountain climate and atmospheric changes; and the geodynamics and metallogeny of minerals. The participants in the Conference focused particular attention on vital natural science issues: the biodiversity of wildlife; limnology and the chemistry of water/snow; mountain flora; land and land utilization in alpine conditions; and environmental protection issues. Considerable interest was raised by the discussion of such problems of communications and information systems as experience in setting up and using the Internet in the region, the creation of a regional information infrastructure, the use of the international information network and the establishment of a regional data-transmission network.

The participants in the Conference recognized that the vital activities of people living in mountain regions involve much greater social and economic costs than in lowlands. In alpine conditions, all physical phenomena take place differently: the power of internal combustion engines is reduced, tension in power lines decreases, and the costs of supplying energy and foodstuffs are higher. The high probability of earthquakes results in increased costs of construction and other preventive measures. The participants noted the reverse impact of human intervention in the environment. The experience of geotechnical facilities built in mountain regions in the second half of the twentieth century shows that, in a number of cases, they have caused highly dangerous natural and technology-induced situations. Thus, the solution of the problem of the unity of the social organism and the alpine environment must be seen in the complex interrelationship of the conditions faced by humans living outside the "economic comfort zone".

We consider it expedient that the General Assembly support the decision of the Conference and proclaim the year 2000 as "International Year of Mountains".

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Annex II

LETTER DATED 30 JANUARY 1997 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The International Conference "Mountain research: challenges and prospects in the twenty-first century" was held in Bishkek, the capital of the Kyrgyz Republic, from 14 to 18 October 1996 on the initiative of the Government of Kyrgyzstan. Leading scholars from mountainous countries of Asia, Europe and America who have long engaged in mountain research participated in the work of the Conference.

At the theoretical level, the Conference scientifically established the organic interrelationship between the natural state of mountains and climatic conditions arising in mountainous areas, on the one hand, and the disruption of the ecological balance and level of social and economic development of peoples living in mountainous areas, on the other.

Mountain ranges and masses in and around the national territories of States serve as an indicator of the health and material circumstances of whole generations of peoples inhabiting such territories.

At the practical level, the Conference considered that its ultimate aim should be to prepare recommendations concerning the manageability and interaction of mountains and economy in the interest of sustainable human development.

Considering that mountains contain resources of vital importance to modern man and are a powerful reserve of the progress of civilization, as well as a source of emergency situations, the Conference adopted a decision to draw the international community's attention to the exceptional importance of mountain masses for mankind and to propose that the United Nations General Assembly declare an "International Year of Mountains".

The international community's attention to this global problem, and the coordination and adoption of an appropriate programme of collective preventive measures, would do much to neutralize or reduce the negative impact of mountain-climate cataclysms on human lives, and would promote the sustainable economic development of mountainous countries and mountain peoples.

I should be grateful if the United Nations supported this important initiative of the International Conference in Bishkek.

(Signed) A. AKAEV



**General Assembly
Economic and Social Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/57
E/1997/4
6 January 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
Substantive session of 1997
Geneva, 30 June-25 July 1997

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO
THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING,
DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

International Year of the Family

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 50/142 of 21 December 1995, requested the Secretary-General to report to at its fifty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting. It also requested the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive document containing the family-related provisions from the outcome of the World Summit for Children, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) to be submitted to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fifth session.
2. The present report provides an analysis of the family-related provisions from the outcome of the above-cited conferences, describes follow-up activities to the International Year of the Family at all levels and contains specific proposals for follow-up action by the Secretariat.

II. SUMMARY AND SUGGESTIONS

3. The international community, in its search for a new integrated approach to development, organized a number of international conferences in the 1990s. These included the World Summit for Children, which adopted the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration;¹ the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which adopted Agenda 21;² the World Conference on Human Rights, which adopted the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;³ the International Conference on Population and Development, which adopted the Programme of Action on Population and Development;⁴ the World Summit for Social Development, which adopted the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action;⁵ the Fourth World Conference on Women, which adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;⁶ and Habitat II, which adopted the Istanbul Declaration and Habitat Agenda.⁷ Each agenda, plan or programme of action contained recommendations and provisions related to family issues which were seen as integral components of development.
4. The conferences reflect the growing consensus in the global community on the integrated, holistic nature of economic and social progress and development. While each conference has a distinct focus, all are part of a shared perception of development which entails recognition of the importance of sustainable development, a special focus on the human person as the agent and beneficiary of development, and an emphasis on empowerment, participation and inclusiveness. Moreover, the new approach to development, which places people at the centre, also introduces the notion of "cross-cutting issues" in development.
5. In discussing family issues, the conferences start from the premise that the family is the basic unit of society and the vortex of concerns for

sustainable development. The conferences reinforce the interrelationship between family well-being and sustainable development, particularly by encouraging actions directed to integrating a family-sensitive approach to development strategies and recognizing that the family is entitled to the widest possible protection and support.

6. Agreed human rights instruments are seen as important guides to improve family legislation, develop or reinforce family policy or establish institutions or administrative practices to support families. The conferences also reveal that the concept of human rights is relevant to the family at several levels: (a) the individual's right to have a family (e.g., reproductive rights); (b) the individual's rights within the family (e.g., rights of children and women); and (c) the family's rights with reference to its environment (e.g., vis-à-vis the State).

7. The core theme, strengthening families, is common to all conferences. All address the challenge that family needs are met, that the institution of the family is strengthened, and that the stability of the family is promoted through the empowerment of families. Multifaceted and intersectoral efforts to support families and provide programmes to protect them are suggested. All conferences stress the need for intra-familial as well as public family support systems. The conferences make specific references to family-sensitive policies and family support systems, such as flexible working hours, part-time employment, work-sharing, public or publicly subsidized child care, parental leave, social security, disability benefits and assistance to families to care for dependants, and family welfare.

8. Particular attention to the protection of children is underlined. The Rio, Cairo and Copenhagen conferences reaffirmed the agenda for children. The Vienna Conference urged universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by 1995. All conferences stressed that every child has the right to be nurtured and protected by its family and that families and society must work together to improve the situation and protect the rights of all children, particularly those in especially difficult circumstances, for example children in areas of armed conflict, children who lack adequate family support, urban street children, abandoned children, children with disabilities, children addicted to narcotic drugs, and the girl child. All children must have access to food, shelter, education and health care.

9. The empowerment of women is another common core theme. The conferences point out that women and men must have equal rights, opportunities and access to resources, and must share equally responsibilities within the family. The concept of gender equality, stressed by the conferences, was essential if families were to be at the centre of social development. The conferences noted that among the most demanding daily aspects of life for many families, especially single-parent and female-headed families, is finding a balance between work and familial responsibilities. They call for a true partnership between men and women in family life and recommend actions such as enacting and enforcing legal and policy measures to forbid discriminatory practices against women and the girl child, ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, eliminating gender-based discrimination before the law (notably with

respect to legal provisions for inheritance, marriage, child custody and property ownership), and developing employment policies that enable both male and female workers to achieve a satisfactory balance between work and promoting responsible fatherhood.

10. The eradication of poverty is another common core theme. The conferences emphasize the need to better understand the causes of poverty and place poverty eradication as a central development priority. Various references were made to the fact that poverty is the main cause of social exclusion, and in almost all societies it threatens the ability of families to meet the needs of their members. Poverty permeates all aspects of family life and poor families bear a particularly large burden. The conferences recommend in this context, the adoption of policies that strengthen the family and contribute to its stability.

11. To summarize, the major significance of the global conferences to family issues and the subsequent attention to the family dimension in development efforts is the new emphasis placed on implementing and translating increased awareness into tangible measures. In this connection, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/142, the following recommendations are made in the spirit of the decisions of the conferences, as well as the objectives of the International Year of the Family:

(a) Governments are encouraged to consider developing family-impact assessments in their development activities and to formulate, implement and evaluate family-sensitive policies, programmes and strategies in accordance with the objectives implicit in the International Year of the Family. This would necessitate establishing or strengthening appropriate national mechanisms in respect of families;

(b) In view of the multisectoral nature of the family topic, and the need to promote the integrated treatment of social development issues, the elaboration of family-sensitive policies and programmes should receive appropriate attention in the framework of the agenda of the Commission for Social Development, in particular during the period 1997-2000;

(c) The activities of the focal point in the United Nations system to promote family issues at all levels, as successor to the secretariat of the International Year of the Family, should concentrate on issues related to the implementation of family-related provisions of the international declarations and plans of action of the global conferences of the 1990s.

III. COMMON CORE THEMES WITHIN THE FAMILY-SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE GLOBAL CONFERENCES OF THE 1990s

12. The conferences covered a broad array of family-related issues. These may be summarized under five core themes: human rights; strengthening families; situation and needs of the child; advancement of women; and poverty eradication.

A. Human rights

13. The World Summit for Children attached great importance to the family and to the family's responsibility for caring for the child and for creating conditions conducive to the enjoyment of his or her rights. The Plan of Action describes an adequate family environment as the only appropriate context for the survival, protection and development of the child. The World Declaration and Plan of Action¹ adopted by the World Summit for Children urge all Governments to promote the earliest possible ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

14. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development⁶ proclaimed the "right to development" as a means of equitably meeting developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations. It was noted, in Agenda 21,² that actions are needed to contribute to the promotion of sustainable livelihoods and environmental protection. Such actions would focus on the areas of education, shelter, health care and the advancement of women. Specific reference is made to the relevant provisions of international instruments such as the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Also, Agenda 21 proposed that Governments consider adopting, strengthening and enforcing legislation prohibiting violence against women and implementing measures and programmes on the issues of responsible parenthood.

15. The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action³ reaffirmed basic principles governing international human rights activities, set out specific goals on a wide number of areas and identified various methods to achieve them. The Programme of Action adopted an integrated approach to the promotion and protection of all human rights. Its importance lies in its protection of individual members of families and in advocating the positive role families could play in the promotion and protection of human rights.

16. The Cairo Programme of Action,⁴ in chapter 5 entitled "The family, its roles, rights, composition and structure", focuses on the promotion of equality of opportunity for family members, especially the rights of children and women in the family. It calls on Governments to eliminate all forms of coercion and discrimination in policies and programmes. The reproductive rights of couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children is posed as central to government- and community-supported policies and programmes. Moreover, legislation and other measures are recommended to assist vulnerable families.

17. In the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action,⁵ it is acknowledged that the family plays a key role in social development and, as such, should be strengthened, with attention to the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of its members. Both call for creating an economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable people to achieve social development. Both call for fostering societies based on the promotion and protection of all human rights. The Programme of Action urges Governments to promote attitudes, structures, policies, laws and practices which eliminate inequality in the family.

18. The advancement of human rights within the family, equal rights and responsibilities of individual members of families, gender equality, the role of the father and protection and development of children are issues of central significance to the specific targets set forth in the Platform for Action⁹ adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women. The human rights of women is a strategic objective of the Platform, which contains specific reference to reproductive rights of women, and freedom from discrimination, coercion and violence. The Platform suggests, *inter alia*, that in addressing the enjoyment of human rights, Governments should promote a policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes. The Beijing Declaration¹⁰ reaffirms the international community's commitment to ensuring the full implementation of the human rights of women and of the girl child.

19. The Istanbul Declaration and the Habitat Agenda⁷ focus on adequate shelter for all as a basic human right. The Istanbul Declaration¹¹ reaffirms two basic commitments: a better standard of living and the full realization of the right to adequate housing, as provided for in international instruments. The Habitat Agenda¹² proclaims that all persons have the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, including adequate food, clothing, housing, water and sanitation and the continuous improvement of living conditions. Furthermore, the Habitat Agenda states that the family is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of family members must be respected. Society should facilitate its integration, reunification, preservation, improvement and protection within adequate shelter and with access to basic services.

B. Strengthening families

20. The World Summit for Children discussed the family's changing capacity and competence, its strength and weaknesses, its nurturing role and its role as an agent of change. The World Declaration and the Plan of Action¹ recognize that strengthening families is achieved by strengthening the role and status of women, providing universal access to basic education and literacy, including completion of primary education or equivalent learning achievement, reducing the current disparities between boys and girls, reducing adult illiteracy, increasing female literacy, vocational training and preparation for employment and increased acquisition of knowledge, skills and values through all educational channels, including modern and traditional communication media, to improve the quality of life of children and families.

21. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development highlighted the close relationship between the environment and development, and between the patterns of behaviour and attitudes of different segments of society - including the family - and sustainable development. It highlighted the role of households in achieving the goals of sustainability. In the context of addressing demographic dynamics and sustainability, it made recommendations relating to family welfare, family credit schemes, the responsible planning of family size and responsible parenthood.²

22. The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action³ underline the role of the legal and legislative domain to strengthen communities and families. Particular

reference is made to: (a) strengthening both national and international mechanisms and programmes to this end; (b) urging the early ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its effective implementation; and (c) the importance of human rights education programmes.

23. The Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development⁴ reaffirmed that the family is the nucleus of society, with the right to be protected by society and the State. It called for support to the most vulnerable families, and the formulation of family-sensitive policies in such areas as health, education, employment, housing and social security. It further stressed the importance of closing the gender gap in primary and secondary education, reducing maternal mortality rates and providing access to reproductive health.

24. The Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action⁵ recognized the family as the basic unit of society and acknowledged that it plays a key role in social development and as such should be strengthened. Within the commitments of Copenhagen, four policy areas to strengthen the family were identified: policies that ensure that all people have adequate economic and social protection during unemployment, ill health, maternity, child rearing, widowhood, disability and old age; policies that enable people to combine their paid work with their family responsibilities; institutions that enhance social integration, recognizing the central role of the family; promoting changes in attitudes, structures, policies, laws and practices to eliminate all obstacles to equality in the family as well as promoting equal partnership between women and men in family and community life.

25. In the Beijing Declaration,¹⁰ the World Conference voiced its conviction that equal rights, opportunities and access to resources, equal sharing of responsibilities for the family by men and women and a harmonious relationship between them are critical to family well-being. The Platform for Action⁹ calls upon Governments to: (a) adopt policies to ensure the appropriate protection of labour laws and social security benefits; (b) promote career development based on work conditions that harmonize work and family responsibilities; (c) enact family-sensitive legislation; (d) design and provide educational programmes to raise awareness on gender equality; (e) integrate gender perspectives in legislation, public policies, programmes and projects; (f) strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl child by formulating national policies and programmes to help the family in its supporting, educating and nurturing roles; and (g) educate parents and care givers to treat girls and boys equally and to ensure shared responsibilities between them.

26. In the Habitat Agenda,¹² it is underlined that the family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened and is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support. Human settlements planning should take into account the constructive role of the family in the design, development and management of such settlements. Society should facilitate, as appropriate, all necessary conditions for the family's integration, reunification, preservation, improvement and protection within adequate shelter and with access to basic services and a sustainable livelihood. In this regard, the Habitat Agenda contains numerous suggestions for action, such as ensuring legal protection from discrimination in access to shelter and basic services; helping the family in

its supporting, educating and nurturing roles; and encouraging social and economic policies that are designed to meet the housing needs of families and their individual members.

C. Situation and needs of the child

27. The World Summit for Children discussed the family's changing capacity and competence, its strengths and weaknesses, its nurturing role and its role as an agent of change. The strategic importance of families in the survival, development and protection of children is underlined, notably with respect to the role of families in socialization, education, protection and the intergenerational transmission of culture and values. The Plan of Action¹ calls for giving children the chance to find their identity and realize their worth in a safe and supportive environment, through families and other care givers committed to their welfare.
28. Agenda 21,² noting that health and development are intimately interconnected and, urging Governments to meet the basic health needs of children, identified the family as having a primary role in protecting children. Governments are urged, inter alia, to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child; promote primary environmental care activities that address the basic needs of children and the community; and improve the environment for children at the household level.
29. The importance of the Vienna Declaration lies in its emphasis on the protection of individual members of families and the positive role families can play in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Programme of Action³ notes that the family merits broader protection in order to provide an adequate environment for the full and harmonious development of children. Special importance is also given to protecting the rights of the girl child and of children in especially difficult circumstances.
30. The Cairo Programme of Action⁴ contains a number of quantitative goals in the field of education, health, reproductive health and family planning, including the following: access to primary education; closing the gender gap in primary and secondary education; reducing infant mortality rates; reducing maternal mortality rates; access to reproductive health and meeting family planning needs. It stresses that the widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, as it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children.
31. The Copenhagen Programme of Action¹³ contains numerous references to the child and the family. It calls for addressing the needs of children in especially difficult circumstances and protecting them by, inter alia, promoting family stability and providing mutual support; promoting social support including good quality child care and working conditions that allow both parents to reconcile parenthood with working life; and supporting and involving family organizations in community activities.
32. The Beijing Platform for Action⁹ underlines the conditions of the girl child and calls for action to be taken to eliminate all forms of discrimination

against her. The education of parents, the protection by family members of the rights of the girl child and the need for support services to families are emphasized. The Platform for Action calls upon Governments to strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl child by formulating appropriate family-friendly policies and programmes and providing an environment conducive to the strengthening of the family.

33. It is noted, in the Habitat Agenda,¹² that human beings are at the centre of concern for sustainable development and that all persons have the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families. In this context, it proposes the provision of shelter and of basic services and facilities for the education and health care of children who are survivors of family violence. The Habitat Agenda reaffirms and is guided, as appropriate, by the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

D. Advancement of women

34. The Plan of Action¹ adopted by the World Summit for Children focuses on strengthening the role and status of women by promoting responsible planning of family size, child spacing, breastfeeding and safe motherhood. Another area of concern is the lack of access of girls and women to basic education and literacy. The Plan of Action calls for increased acquisition of knowledge, skills and values, through all educational channels, to improve the quality of life of families.

35. Agenda 21² stresses the necessity of active participation and involvement of women in its implementation. It devotes a chapter to women and sustainable development and calls for a global strategy to eliminate political, legal, cultural, social and economic obstacles to women's full participation in sustainable development. In its advocacy of achieving equality in all aspects of society, Agenda 21 touches upon the need for responsible planning of family size and services, responsible parenthood, programmes to promote the reduction of the heavy workload at home, the sharing of household tasks by men and women on an equal basis, programmes to support and strengthen equal employment opportunities, and adequate support systems, including parental leave.

36. In the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,³ Governments and institutions were urged to intensify their efforts for the protection and promotion of the human rights of women. The Programme of Action gave special importance to the integration of the status and human rights of women and to strengthening the protection of women's rights. It reaffirmed, on the basis of equality between men and women, a woman's right to accessible and adequate health care and the widest range of family planning services, as well as equal access to education at all levels. In this regard, families have a major role to play, particularly in creating a suitable environment and by promoting the respect, learning and practice of basic human rights.

37. The Cairo Programme of Action⁴ highlights the necessity of gender equality in the family. It calls for equal participation of women and men in family responsibilities - family planning, child-rearing and housework. It underlines the imperative of empowering girls and women as a means of achieving sustainable

development. Closer attention to single-parent families, especially those headed by women, was encouraged. The Programme of Action recognized the need to integrate family planning activities into the broader context of reproductive health. It reaffirmed the basic human right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children.

38. In the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action,⁵ it was noted that women carry a disproportionate share of the problems attendant to poverty, social disintegration and unemployment. It was also recognized that empowering women to strengthen their own capacities was a main objective of development and a principal resource to that end. In discussing the goals of full employment, eradicating poverty and ensuring social integration, the Copenhagen Declaration highlighted the role of women. This was particularly emphasized by commitment 5, which underlined the need to promote full respect for human dignity and to achieving equality and equity between women and men, and to enhance the participation and leadership roles of women in political, civil, economic, social and cultural life and in development. The Programme of Action stresses such measures as promoting changes in attitudes, structures, policies, laws and practices relating to equality in the family and in society, and promoting full and equal access by women to literacy education, training and health services.

39. The Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action⁶ highlighted the fact that women play a critical role in the family, and set targets for women's full participation in economic and political decision-making, examining inequality between the sexes as a human rights issue, and intensifying international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women. The Declaration and the Platform focused, *inter alia*, on poverty and women; unequal access to and inadequate health-care services and education opportunities; violence against women and lack of awareness of, and commitment to, internationally and nationally recognized women's rights.

40. Both the Habitat Agenda and the Istanbul Declaration⁷ noted that the quality of life and the activities of all human beings within human settlements are closely interrelated with population change, demographic patterns, including growth, structure and distribution of population, and development variables such as education, health and nutrition, the levels of use of natural resources, the state of the environment and the pace and quality of economic and social development. In their advocacy of a cross-sectoral approach to policy development, particular attention was paid to the promotion of gender perspectives. Consequently, in recognition of the salient role women play in integrated human settlement planning and development, the Habitat Agenda underscored a variety of national-level actions such as removing barriers and eradicating discrimination in the provision of shelter, facilitating land and security of tenure for women, promoting mechanisms for the protection of widowed women, and ensuring the full participation of women in all decision-making processes, with particular regard to women in poverty.

E. Poverty eradication

41. A major focus of the Declaration and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit for Children is child survival, protection and development. Children living in poverty were cited, particularly children forced into hazardous labour when family income and purchasing power cannot provide for their needs. The need for a global attack on poverty, which would have benefits for the welfare of children and their families, particularly in developing and least developed countries, was stressed. The Plan of Action provides specific actions directed at alleviating poverty in the areas of health, nutrition and education.

42. Agenda 21 describes poverty as a "complex multidimensional problem". It notes that the eradication of poverty and hunger, greater equity in income distribution and human resources development remain major challenges. It calls for an anti-poverty strategy which focuses on resources, production and people and covers demographic issues, enhanced health care and education, the rights of women, empowering women and communities, and provision of services and access to credit to poor families.

43. The Vienna Programme of Action recognized the mutually reinforcing interrelationship between democracy, development and respect for human rights and focused attention on the impact of extreme poverty and exclusion on the enjoyment of human rights and the need for action to eliminate them. The Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action recognized that widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and urged its immediate alleviation as a high priority for the international community. The need to protect families, because of the central role that they play in achieving the full and harmonious development of their individual members, particularly children, was also highlighted.

44. The Cairo Programme of Action, in chapter 5 entitled "The family, its roles, rights, composition and structure", identifies poverty as one cause of great strain on the family. It notes the existence of an increasing number of vulnerable families and calls for necessary support and protection of the family, including the formulation of family-sensitive policies in the fields of housing, work, health, social security and education.

45. The concept of poverty developed in the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action is broad: it includes inadequate income, lack of access to education, health care and other amenities, and exclusion from participation in the life of the community. The Programme of Action emphasizes the need to focus efforts on the elimination of hunger and malnutrition, as well as on the provision of food security, education, employment and livelihood, and primary health-care services, including reproductive health care. Special priority is to be given to women and children, who often bear the greatest burden of poverty. It recommends that overall economic and social policies and programmes should be examined with respect, inter alia, to their impact on family well-being.

46. The Beijing Platform for Action describes poverty as having various manifestations, including lack of income and productive resources sufficient to

ensure a sustainable livelihood; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increasing morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments; social discrimination and exclusion; and lack of participation in decision-making and in civil, social and cultural life. In addition, the Platform for Action identifies the feminization of poverty as well as the poverty of low-wage workers and people who fall outside family support systems as significant problems in many countries. The Platform for Action underlines the need to improve the effectiveness of anti-poverty programmes directed towards the poorest and most disadvantaged groups of women and stressed that any strategy for eradicating poverty necessitates a gender perspective.

47. The Habitat Agenda draws attention to the relationship between equitable human settlements, poverty eradication and strengthening the family as the basic unit of society. The Istanbul Declaration and the Agenda reaffirm the commitment to the right to adequate housing, covering such issues as legal security of tenure, protection from discrimination and equal access to affordable and adequate housing for all.

IV. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY

A. National level

48. Since 1994, follow-up activities in many countries have been increasingly based on international standards, notably the International Covenants on Human Rights,¹⁴ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,¹⁵ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.¹⁶ Various countries have ensured that relevant national laws and administrative procedures reflect the reality of diverse forms of families.

49. Responsibility for family issues in many countries was combined with, or subsumed by, ministries responsible for children, women or social welfare questions. A number of Governments have established special mechanisms, such as ministries, departments or committees on the family, to promote effective national action. These include Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Italy, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, the Philippines, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zaire.

50. In Antigua and Barbuda, the Government is focusing on the unemployment situation in the country and its effects on families. Also, an education programme in financial management for family survival is under way.

51. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Environment, Youth and Family established the Austrian Institute for Family Research to improve conditions of family life and to promote international cooperation on family research. The Federal Ministry also initiated the Austrian Visitors' Programme for Studying Exemplary Family Benefits and Family Services, which offers an opportunity for

representatives of developing countries to study family issues and programmes in Austria for one week.

52. The Government of Belarus has enacted legislation concerning State allowances to families with children and on the rights of the child. A new Family Code was reviewed by the Supreme Council and a National Action Plan for the Advancement of Women for the period 1996-2000 was adopted. A Department for Family and Gender Problems was established within the Social Welfare Ministry in 1995.

53. The Institute of Family Welfare within the Ministry of Health of Colombia celebrated the "month of the family" between the second Sunday of May and the second Sunday of June. The Institute organized, in October 1996, an International Seminar on Family and Development in the Twenty-first Century.

54. Follow-up activities undertaken by the Government of Cyprus included the following: a two-week seminar on domestic violence, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations; the observance of 15 May in 1995 and 1996 as the International Day of Families; publicity, studies and academic lectures on family issues; and the establishment of a Permanent Family Committee.

55. The Ministry of Social Affairs and the Inter-ministerial Child Committee of Denmark have focused on ensuring an improved balance between work and family life. In 1996, the Government set aside 175 million Danish kroner to assist families with children experiencing a crisis situation.

56. The Government of Fiji recently ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. A draft National Action Plan on the Family is under review. The theme for 1995, which was the silver jubilee of Fiji's independence, was "The family, Fiji's hope". A Family and Population Activities Centre was established to assist non-governmental organizations in integrating family issues into their programmes.

57. In Finland, the Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs and Health, in collaboration with the European Social Foundation, have launched a research and development project on combining work and family life, to be completed by 1999. Legislation in 1996 secured the right to municipal day-care centres for all families with children under school-age.

58. In Ghana, an Intersectoral National Planning Committee, under the auspices of the Ministry of Employment and Social Welfare, was set up to plan and implement family programmes.

59. The Government of Malaysia formulated a National Action Plan for Malaysian Families. Also, family issues are emphasized in the Seventh Malaysia Plan (1996-2000).

60. In Malta, the Ministry for Social Development created the Family Study and Research Commission. A survey was carried out to determine the actual state of Maltese families, with a view to setting future policies.

61. In New Zealand, the Department of Social Welfare initiated a Social Services Strategy for 1995-2005, emphasizing the family. In addition, the following initiatives are envisaged: an Institute of Family Studies to conduct research and provide information; a Policy Unit to monitor policy proposals and their impact on families; an Office of the Commissioner for the Family and Children; and the development of New Zealand Family Day into an annual event.
62. In the Philippines, a Presidential Executive Order in 1995 created the Steering Committee for the Proper Observance of Family Week (the fourth Sunday of September). Sixteen regional consultations were conducted to monitor the Plan of Action for the Filipino Family. Among the activities to celebrate Family Week is the yearly search for outstanding Filipino families who have demonstrated family values in their daily lives. The Steering Committee has decided to adopt an anti-pornography programme.
63. In Portugal, the High Commission on the Promotion of Equality and of the Family in 1996, organized meetings, disseminated family guidelines and provided financial and technical assistance to various family-related non-governmental organizations. In addition, research on the family, as well as legislation on strengthening the family, has been initiated. In 1995, Parliament approved a resolution underlining the vital role of the family and its right to protection. The Department for Family Affairs, created in 1982, is charged with its implementation.
64. The Government of Sao Tome and Principe is focusing on family law and has undertaken studies on families. It has created centres for children of working parents and initiated television and radio programmes on family education.
65. In Singapore, a family-values public education information package to help low-income families has been widely disseminated. Since 1995, family-life education programmes have been carried out. The Ministry of Community Development, which runs the Family Development Division and the Family Support Division, has initiated campaigns, a national Family Day, exhibitions and similar events.
66. In South Africa, a draft White Paper for Social Welfare, emphasizing the family, was initiated in 1996. A National Programme of Action for South African Families, Children and Youth is also being developed as part of the Five-Year Social Welfare Action Plan. Moreover, programmes to combat family violence and to celebrate National Family Day on 8 April are priorities.
67. In Thailand, the National Committee on the Family was established within the National Commission on Women's Affairs. During 1995-1996, the Committee formulated the Ten-Year Policies and Plans for the Development of the Family. It also financed local family support activities in the provinces, reviewed family-related laws and organized two seminars on family issues in 1995 and 1996.
68. During 1995-1996, the Government of Tunisia established a Ministry of Women's and Family Affairs, declared 11 December National Family Day, and created a National Council of Women.

69. In Venezuela, the Ministry of the Family has assisted non-governmental organizations and community-based groups to participate in social programmes concerned with families. It revised and adopted relevant legislation, and strengthened mechanisms of follow-up to and evaluation of family programmes and policies.

B. Regional level

70. The Economic Commission for Africa organized a one-day workshop to celebrate the International Day of Families, on 15 May 1995. The workshop heard lectures on the situation of displaced families in Ethiopia, gender relations in Ethiopian families and family health. In 1996, ECA organized a Seminar on the AIDS Pandemic and its Implications for Human Development and Utilization in Africa.

71. In 1996, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia created a database on policies and measures having impact on women and the family in the region and an annotated bibliography on Arab women and the family. In addition, a survey of female-headed households in the region is planned to investigate the concept of the feminization of poverty for Arab women.

72. During 1995-1996, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has undertaken projects on the Enhancement of social security for the poor, and on lifelong preparation for old age. The Social Development Newsletter, published twice yearly, regularly disseminates information on family-related subjects. ESCAP has initiated a project entitled "Strengthening the role of the family in providing social protection to its vulnerable members, including older persons" to assist Governments in the region to elaborate family-sensitive policies and programmes.

73. The Economic Commission for Europe coordinates a region-wide comparative research project on fertility and family surveys to generate relevant information on the composition and origin of current families, distribution of various household tasks, the break-up of families, and selected family values and attitudes. A second round of fertility and family surveys is planned for the year 2000.

C. International level

1. United Nations organizations and agencies

74. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) has prepared plans of action for inclusion in the revised System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control, in which the family is a resource in the process of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation. The family is also reflected in the plans on gender and drug abuse; children and youth in especially difficult circumstances; drug abuse in the workplace; and drug abuse prevention in the school environment. Technical cooperation activities target young people who are at high risk of drug abuse, and focus on the family has been integrated in this process. UNDCP has undertaken activities that stress women as drug

abusers, as family members of drug abusers and as agents of prevention and change.

75. During 1995-1996, numerous projects and activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations were aimed at improving family well-being. Particular focus was on the preparation of the World Food Summit, held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996, which addressed food security and the right of all people to the access of nutritionally adequate and safe food.

76. Follow-up activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization consisted of establishing pilot projects with both the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania, celebrating the International Day of Families with the Paris Non-governmental Committee on the Family, a conference on family policy, and the publication of an article entitled "Supporting family responsibility for the rights of the child: an educational viewpoint".

77. The International Labour Organization emphasized promoting measures that would enable workers to perform their jobs and care for their families. A booklet entitled "Equal opportunities and equal treatment for workers with family responsibilities" featured the principles and requirements of the Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention (No. 156).

2. Other intergovernmental organizations

78. In 1995, the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) initiated an ongoing study project on the family entitled "A study on the feasibility of an ASEAN mechanism on child and family development".

79. The European Commission and the Council of Europe, in collaboration with the International Catholic Child Bureau, initiated a three-year project, "European Consortium", on education in communication between adults and children.

3. Non-governmental organizations

80. The non-governmental sector has continued its partnership role. International, regional and national non-governmental organizations continued their activities in the promotion of the principles and objectives of the Year, organizing meetings or seminars on family issues, and conducting training, research and studies on family issues.

81. The International Union of Family Organizations has organized various meetings related to Habitat II and the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996). In December 1996, an International Conference on Family Policies was organized in Quebec, Canada.

82. The Vienna Non-governmental Organization Committee on the Family initiated a Plan of Action for 1995-1997 and a draft Framework for Future Action for 1996-1997, and published the newsletter Families International. The Committee

organized a seminar on integrating the family in social progress and development on 11 and 12 November 1996 at Vienna.

83. The Confederation of Family Organizations in the European Community (COFACE) organized its Fourth European Family Conference, with the theme "Social policy - burden or support for the European economy" at Dublin on 21 and 22 November 1996. The Conferences are held every three years. Another current priority of COFACE is to have family policy integrated into the European Union Treaty.

84. The New York Non-governmental Organization Committee on the Family has expended efforts to ensure that the family - and particularly its essential role - is reflected in the outcomes of the global conferences of the 1990s. Its programme for 1996-1997 focuses on advocacy and promotional activities.

85. In addition, the following international and regional non-governmental organizations have informed the Secretariat of their active participation and involvement in follow-up activities: Baha'i International Community, Caritas International, Foundation for the Rights of the Family - International Secretariat (PRODEFA), International Association of Lions Clubs - Lions Club International, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation for Parent Education, International Federation of Social Workers, International Movement ATD Fourth World, International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling, Rotary International, Service and Research Foundation of Asia on Family and Culture, SOS - Kinderdorf International, Centre for Family Studies, Family Service America, Institute Henry-Dunant, National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health, Pro Familia, Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development.

4. Research and academic institutions

86. During 1995-1996, the Australian Institute of Family Studies revised and expanded its International Directory of International Year of the Family Research Activities and has made it available on the Internet. The Institute plans to continue to develop its World Wide Web site as a focus for family research and policy information.

87. The Vanier Institute of the Family undertook projects and partnership development activities such as a statistical overview of family data, a Canadian family data service, the expansion of its Partnership Development Programme and dissemination of its publication Transition.

88. In 1995-1996, the Tata Institute of Social Sciences published a book entitled Indian Bibliographies on the Family, funded by the Indian Ministry of Welfare. It also published special issues on the family in The Indian Journal of Social Work as well as in a government report entitled India's Commitment to Family Well-Being: A Report to the People.

89. The Centre for Family Friendly Cities of the University of Akron, Ohio, United States of America, created an interactive communications network on the

World Wide Web designed to store, search and retrieve information on, inter alia, family relationships, sexuality and reproduction, special problems and risk factors, family counselling and education, cultural social and urban issues, basic needs, leisure and entertainment, consumption and sustainable development and work.

90. The International Family Policy Forum, based in Montreal, was founded in 1995 as a consortium that involves Governments, non-governmental organizations and research and academic institutions. It aims to facilitate international cooperation in the area of family concerns and encourages the participation of partners in projects and activities identified by its Board of Directors.

V. SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE FOLLOW-UP
TO THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY

91. Activities relating to the follow-up to the International Year of the Family have been integrated into the work programme of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, which is guided by the long-term objectives implicit in the decisions taken regarding families in the context of the Year and within the framework of the family-related provisions of the recent global conferences.

92. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/142, the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the Family was renamed the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities. Assistance continues to be provided to activities and projects of direct benefit to families, particularly in developing and least developed countries. The Secretariat continued the substantive management of the Fund by reviewing requests from Governments and non-governmental organizations for funding, preparing funding recommendations and monitoring and evaluating projects. The resources of the Fund at the end of 1996 were estimated to be about US\$ 360,000.

93. The Division for Social Policy and Development initiated actions for the worldwide observance of the International Day of Families (15 May) by preparing background information on the family for use by Governments, United Nations agencies and bodies, including the regional commissions and United Nations information centres, and non-governmental organizations. A message by the Secretary-General was prepared for wide distribution in 1996 and again in 1997. The 1996 International Day of Families was observed in many countries, by Governments,¹⁷ United Nations agencies and bodies,¹⁸ non-governmental organizations¹⁹ and numerous educational institutions. Many countries have been planning events for 1997.

94. In its efforts to promote and strengthen international cooperation on family issues, the Secretariat signed a memorandum of understanding, with the Bratislava International Centre for Family Studies and substantively assisted the Austrian Federal Ministry of Environment, Youth and Family Affairs in selecting candidates for the Visitors' Programme for Studying Exemplary Family Benefits and Family Services in Austria and reviewing its programme. An inventory on best practices of family policies is in preparation to facilitate

an exchange of information and experience. In this connection, the Secretariat is working closely with the Government of Austria.

95. Supportive relationships with the non-governmental organization Committees on the Family in Vienna, New York and Paris have been reinforced. The Division participated in various family-related meetings organized by concerned non-governmental organizations and academic institutions.

96. In collaboration with the International Federation for Parent Education, the International Federation for Training and Development and the Centre for Family Studies at the University of Akron, the Division is promoting action-oriented research and case studies on salient family issues.

97. The Division, as the focal point within the United Nations system on matters relating to families, continued its efforts to consult and cooperate with Governments, non-governmental organizations and other International Year of the Family partners on an effective follow-up to the Year. Central to these collaborative efforts was the advocacy of the family as a prime issue of social policy. The Division has utilized meetings, conferences and general correspondence to promote and publicize family-related topics. Circular letters focused on encouraging national focal points, United Nations bodies and the non-governmental organization sector to generate substantive and information activities.

98. Current and future work relating to family issues is guided by the recommendations of the global conferences of the 1990s and specific intergovernmental mandates.

99. The significance of the global conferences and their core themes of relevance to family issues is that they affirm the objectives set for the International Year of the Family and confirm the importance of the family as the basic social unit and the value of a family-sensitive perspective in social and development policy.

100. In addition to intergovernmental mandates provided by the Commission for Social Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, the conclusions of the regional meetings held in 1993, the International Conference on Families, held in Montreal in 1994, and the Interregional Meeting of Focal Points in 1995 are also relevant insofar as they reflect the thinking regarding institution-building and the strengthening of international cooperation on family issues.

101. With the above-mentioned in mind, the Division will continue to promote international cooperation within the context of the follow-up to the International Year of the Family. More specifically, it will:

(a) Assist in integrating family concerns within the multi-year work programme for 1997-2000 of the Commission for Social Development;

(b) Provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated, comprehensive approach to development;

- (c) Facilitate the dissemination and exchange of ideas and experiences on family issues, reinforce networking with concerned partners and civil society, and in this context, organize a series of subregional expert group meetings;
- (d) Develop an inventory of best practices of family policies;
- (e) Prepare a global family country-profile report in 1999;
- (f) Mobilize resources, inter alia, through the Trust Fund on Family Activities to support the above initiatives.

Notes

¹ A/45/625, annex.

² Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (vol. I and vol. I/Corr.1, vol. II, vol. III and vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

³ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I).

⁴ Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September, 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

⁶ A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

⁷ A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

⁸ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development ..., resolution 1, annex I.

⁹ A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

¹⁰ Ibid., annex I.

¹¹ A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

¹² Ibid., annex II.

¹³ A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

¹⁴ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

¹⁵ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

¹⁶ General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

¹⁷ Albania, Bahrain, Belarus, Colombia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Latvia, Malaysia, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, Singapore, Slovakia and Tunisia.

¹⁸ Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Economic Commission for Africa, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and United Nations information centres.

¹⁹ Union of Latvian Large Families Association, Congolese Association for Families' Welfare, Indian Institute for Peace, Disarmament and Environmental Protection, NGO Forum on Families, India, Centre of Documentation and Research at the University of Vale do Rio dos Sinos, Brazil, UNESCO NGO Standing Committee on the Family, University of Padua, Hong Kong Council of Social Services, Argentinean Council for Development and Social Action.



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1997/5
6 January 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH, FRENCH
and SPANISH

Organizational session for 1997
23 January and 4-7 February 1997

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) resolution 553 (XXVI) established an ad hoc working group open to all ECLAC members and empowered, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, to define priorities for the work programme and recommend to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities, taking into account the development priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as budgetary considerations.
2. All of the above is being undertaken in the context of reform of the United Nations, which is now being called upon to adjust to new circumstances, not only with respect to organization, management and budget, but also in matters such as defining institutional identity, eliminating duplication and refining its programme of work better to meet the most crucial needs of the member States.
3. In compliance with this mandate, the ad hoc working group met at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, from 29 to 31 July 1996, under the chairmanship of Costa Rica. The meeting was attended by representatives of 32 member States and 2 associate members.
4. As a result of this exercise a number of adjustments were approved in the priorities for the execution of the programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1998-1999.
5. Following the suggestion of some member States, a meeting of delegates from the Permanent Missions of ECLAC member States to the United Nations in New York took place on 25 October in order to examine the final report of the Santiago meeting.



6. The following is the set of documents relevant to the exercise:

1. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolution 553 (XXVI) (annex I)
2. Report of the meeting of the ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553 (XXVI) (annex II) and changes suggested to the order of priorities for the execution of the ECLAC work programme (appendix)
3. Proposed order of priorities for the execution of the programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1998-1999*
4. Meeting of representatives of States members of ECLAC to the United Nations to hear the report of the first meeting of the ad hoc working group*
5. Programme of work of the ECLAC system, 1998-1999*

* To be made available as background documents in the languages of submission only.

Annex I

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
RESOLUTION 553 (XXVI)

Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling Commission resolutions 520 (XXIV) and 541 (XXV) on the role and functions of ECLAC and the consequences for it of the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 48/162 and decision 49/411 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social spheres and other questions relating thereto, and resolution 48/218 and decision 49/461 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind also the guidelines emanating from the open-ended high-level working group established by General Assembly resolution 49/252 with a mandate to undertake a thorough review of the revitalization, strengthening and reform of the United Nations system,

Taking note of the content of the Declaration issued by the States Members and observers of the United Nations on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and, in particular, of the proposal for ensuring that the United Nations enters the twenty-first century equipped, financed and structured to serve effectively the peoples in whose name it was established,

Reaffirming its conviction that the activities entrusted to the Commission by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 106 (VI) retain their full validity in the light of the present circumstances and the foreseeable future of the Latin American and Caribbean countries,

Having before it the note by the secretariat entitled "Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC" (LC/G.1899(SER.26/4)), of 22 January 1996,

Convinced that, as a new century dawns, sustainable development should occupy an important place in the agenda of the United Nations,

Convinced further that it is essential for the United Nations, in carrying out activities in the economic and social fields, to take account of the regional dimension and the decentralization of tasks in accordance with the comparative advantages of Headquarters and the subsidiary organs located in the developing regions,

1. Affirms that, in Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC is especially well qualified to undertake the tasks entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 106 (VI), in the framework of a restructured United Nations;

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2. Declares, therefore, that ECLAC should function as a centre of excellence charged with collaborating with member States in a comprehensive analysis of development processes geared to the design, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and the resulting provision of operational services in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation and coordination;

3. Declares further that, in order to play a relevant role with greater effectiveness and efficiency, ECLAC will need to adapt to the evolving development priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, within the framework of the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations;

4. Recommends that the institutional structure and pattern of conferences of the ECLAC system, including the practice of holding biennial sessions of the main forum, should continue to serve as the foundation in maintaining the simplicity, effectiveness and flexibility of the Commission;

5. Recommends further that ECLAC should pursue its efforts to improve its performance, productivity, impact, efficiency and effectiveness, taking into account, where appropriate, ongoing processes pertaining to the United Nations as a whole;

6. Instructs the Executive Secretary, therefore, to:

(a) Pursue and strengthen the institutional development and management upgrading activities aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities which ECLAC carries out in fulfilment of the mandates conferred on it by member States;

(b) Improve the indicators for evaluating the activities of the Commission in terms of performance, productivity and impact;

(c) Intensify consultation and strengthen cooperation and coordination with other United Nations organs, agencies and programmes, particularly the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, taking special care to avoid duplication of activities;

(d) Strengthen existing cooperation and coordination with other multilateral organizations, such as the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States, the Latin American Economic System and other Latin American and Caribbean institutions pursuing similar objectives in the region, again taking care to avoid duplication of activities;

7. Decides to establish an ad hoc working group open to all ECLAC member countries, to be headed by the Chairman of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission, which group, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, is empowered to define priorities for the work programme and recommend to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities, taking into account the development priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as budgetary considerations. The first meeting of this ad hoc working group will be held within 90 days at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, and any

subsequent meetings will be held preferably at either of the subregional headquarters of ECLAC or at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

8. Entrusts the ad hoc working group with preparing a progress report to be transmitted through the Executive Secretary to the resumed substantive session of the Economic and Social Council for consideration at the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly and with transmitting its proposals regarding the priorities for the 1998-1999 work programme through the appropriate channels to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session;

9. Further entrusts the ad hoc working group with submitting a final report on the review of priorities for the programme of work of ECLAC to the next session of the Commission.

Annex II

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 553 (XXVI), HELD AT SANTIAGO, CHILE, 29-31 JULY 1996*

I. MANDATE

1. Resolution 553 (XXVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) established an ad hoc working group open to all ECLAC members. This group, headed by the Chairman of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission, was empowered, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, to define priorities for the work programme and recommend to the Commission strategic directions for its future activities, taking into account the development priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as budgetary considerations. The resolution further provided that the first meeting of the ad hoc working group was to be held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, within 90 days following the twenty-sixth session.

II. PLACE AND DATE OF THE MEETING

2. The first meeting of the ad hoc working group took place at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, from 29 to 31 July 1996.

III. ATTENDANCE

3. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

4. Two associate members of the Commission were also represented: Aruba and Netherlands Antilles.

IV. OPENING MEETING

5. The Chairman of the Presiding Officers of the twenty-sixth session, Mr. Melvin Sáenz Biolly of Costa Rica, welcomed the participants and reminded them that ECLAC resolution 553 (XXVI) not only provided the mandate for the meeting but also reflected the interest of the member States in broadening the

* Previously issued under the symbol LC/G.1942. This document should be read in conjunction with the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for 1998-1999, which will be made available for information.

contribution of the United Nations to development. He pointed out that ECLAC had already begun to take steps to increase its efficiency, as part of an important process of innovation undertaken by the entire Organization, a process that some labelled "reform", but that his country preferred to call "modernization" or "bringing up to date". He recalled that the central purpose of the meeting was to determine what priorities the member countries wished to assign to activities within the programme of work and stressed that the Commission's vital role was to function as a centre of excellence devoted to the study of the main aspects of economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

6. Mr. Gert Rosenthal, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, cordially welcomed the representatives of the Governments participating in the ad hoc working group. He said that, beyond its immediate objectives, this forum for interchange between the secretariat and the Governments of the member States would be helpful in adapting the future work of the Commission to changes in the availability of resources and in the demands of the Governments. The exercise was taking place in the wider context of reform of the United Nations, which was now being called upon to adjust to new circumstances, not only with respect to organization, management and budget, but also in matters such as defining institutional identity, eliminating duplication and refining its programme of work better to meet the most crucial needs of the Member States. Because the process of programme planning and priority setting had to begin three years in advance, while budgetary matters were handled by other parts of the Organization, some degree of flexibility was needed in order to accommodate new priorities and changes in available resources - through an interchange with member Governments. Up to now, such interaction had taken place during the session and through bilateral consultations. Now, however, the rapid pace of change made it highly advisable to undertake this exercise more frequently and as a group.

7. The fundamental role of ECLAC was to join with Governments in thinking about ways to overcome obstacles to development from a regional perspective with a view to practical action. He emphasized that the Commission's mandate in this respect was broad, and for that reason it had chosen a basically thematic approach to its programme of work, an approach which cut across divisional lines and allowed for greater flexibility. Turning to the secretariat's proposal for organizing the debate, he explained that a set of charts had been prepared in which each activity had been tentatively classified into one of four categories of priority, ranging from the essential to those that in fact could not be carried out unless frozen resources were again made available. The anticipated output would be a revised programme of work in accord with reality and the desires of the Governments.

8. Lastly, he pointed out that the institution did not draw a sharp distinction between analytical and operational activities, but saw them as complementary. Operational activities developed out of the analytical framework, which gave them coherence. In response to concern about financing such activities with extrabudgetary resources, he explained that the practice grew out of the secretariat's interest in joining forces with other organizations, which proposed operational activities utilizing the capital that ECLAC chiefly had to offer, namely its analytical capacity, and were willing to

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finance the activities, an opportunity too good for the institution to neglect. On the subject of possible duplication of tasks, he said that the Commission was in constant communication with other international organizations and maintained a network of contacts with other research centres in order to arrive at a division of labour that would take into account the comparative advantages of each institution. With regard to the scope of the exercise in which the meeting was now engaged, he described it as a process that would produce an output, namely, a preliminary agreement on what priority to assign the activities.

9. As a working procedure, the Executive Secretary then proposed a general analysis of the non-paper prepared by the secretariat, followed by a brief oral presentation preceding the examination of each subprogramme. He said that the final output of the meeting would be, first, a report that would reflect the decisions reached by the delegations but would not include a summary of each statement and, second, a revised version of the programme of work that had been approved at the last session, adapted to take into account the emphases recommended by the working group.

V. SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS

10. The exchange of ideas between the delegations and the secretariat included both a general debate on the nature of the exercise and a detailed examination of the subprogrammes.

A. General debate

11. The delegations agreed that the priority-setting exercise for the programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennium 1998-1999 was an aspect of the examination of the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 still being conducted by the States members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) at the Secretariat in New York.

12. It was emphasized that the exercise must be ongoing and flexible. Because of the long lead-time that characterized the United Nations programming process, priorities should be able to be readjusted in the future to take account of changing circumstances in the world and the region. It was agreed that the exercise marked the start of a mechanism of dialogue and consultation between the member States and the secretariat both on setting the agenda and work programmes of the ECLAC system and on evaluating the execution of these programmes.

13. It was also stressed that the objective of the meeting was to set priorities for the programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennium 1998-1999. While this process would clearly have budget implications for the future, they were not to be dealt with on this occasion, since consideration of the financial aspects of the exercise was the work of other organs of the United Nations system.

14. The delegations agreed that in undertaking the priority-setting exercise they would view the programme of work in an integrated manner. Thus,

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adjustments to the priority accorded activities within a given subprogramme would not necessarily have to be compensated within that subprogramme. Delegations also agreed that all thematic subprogrammes should be applicable to the wider membership, notwithstanding the existence of subprogrammes 10 and 11. In this regard, they emphasized the need to pay particular attention to the small economies of the region.

15. Some delegations suggested that ECLAC should concentrate its efforts on the areas in which it enjoyed comparative advantages and should leave aside those that could be better addressed by other agencies or organizations or should enter into strategic alliances with them in order to carry out selected activities jointly.

16. It was also observed that the secretariat was in an excellent position to foster and facilitate cooperation activities within the Latin American and Caribbean region and between the region and other parts of the world.

17. The meeting concurred with the proposal of one delegation that the programme of work should pay special heed to the social dimension in all subject areas.

18. In the course of the general debate, it was repeatedly urged that the ECLAC programme of work should more adequately reflect the needs and requirements of the Caribbean members of the Commission. There was a consensus that in addition to the activities included under the Caribbean subprogramme, the activities of an analytical and operational nature carried out by ECLAC headquarters in Santiago should also give more effective and specific consideration to the characteristic aspects of these economies.

19. A number of delegations also asked the secretariat to consider the possibility of allocating greater resources from the regular budget (in Professional person/months) to operational activities. In addition, the secretariat was asked to provide more information in its report about the use of extrabudgetary resources for operational activities.

20. Lastly, the secretariat was asked to revise and update the lists of recipients of its publications in order to disseminate more effectively the outputs of the work programme.

B. Consideration of the subprogrammes

21. The meeting focused on classifying and assigning priorities to the specific activities that made up the subject areas of the programme of work of the ECLAC system for the biennium 1998-1999 previously adopted by resolution 559 (XXVI) at the twenty-sixth session of ECLAC, held in San José, Costa Rica, in April 1996.

22. The subprogrammes were presented to the delegations one by one by the secretariat and were the subject of detailed debate. As a result of the debate, the secretariat made changes in the priorities based on concrete proposals adopted by consensus or on its interpretation of the feeling of the majority of

the delegations. The changes arising from the discussion of each subprogramme are summarized below.

SUBPROGRAMME 1: LINKAGES WITH THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTION SPECIALIZATION

Subject area 1.2: National trade policies and market integration

Assign "B" priority to the expert meeting to consider the room for action open to the Governments of the region as regards their policies for improving linkages with the global economy (paragraph (a)) and to the study on the impact of multilateral, regional and hemispheric commitments on trade policies in the region (subparagraph (b) (i)).

Subject area 1.5: Patterns of trade specialization

(a) Assign "D" priority to the study on technological development and exports, based on a comparative analysis of various Asian and Latin American experiences (subparagraph (a) (iii)).

(b) Note that the delegations of Bolivia, Brazil and Venezuela differ in the priorities they would assign to the subject areas included under this subprogramme.

(c) Add the intraregional dimension to this subject area.

(d) Strengthen the Caribbean presence in the various subject areas of the subprogramme.

SUBPROGRAMME 2: INTEGRATION, OPEN REGIONALISM AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

Subject area 2.1: Convergence of the integration process: economic, regulatory and institutional aspects

(a) It was agreed to include under this subject area the social aspects of convergence of the integration process.

(b) It was duly noted that the activities in support of the hemispheric integration process mentioned under paragraph (c) should be complemented by those mentioned under subject areas 3.5 (a) (iv); 4.5 (c); 10.4 and 10.5; and 11.1 (b). It was pointed out, moreover, that many of the analytical activities to be carried out under the subprogramme were relevant to both hemispheric and subregional integration processes, so that the entire programme would indirectly have an impact on the specific tasks the ECLAC secretariat was to perform in support of the various integration processes under way among the countries members of the Commission.

Subject area 2.2: Intraregional investments: the internationalization of Latin American and Caribbean companies

(a) It was agreed that attention should be focused on the promotion of intraregional investments in Latin America and the Caribbean and that observations on the Asian experience should be taken as points of reference only.

(b) It was agreed that operational activities (paragraph (c)) should be moved up to priority "B".

Subject area 2.3: The social dimension of regional integration

It was urged that it would be helpful, to the extent possible, to increase the number of person/months devoted to the subject of the social dimension of integration.

Subject area 2.4: Regional transport infrastructure and services

(a) It was suggested that the possibility should be considered of reducing the proposed number of person/months and strengthening other subject areas.

(b) It was also suggested that consideration should be given to the social aspects of this subject area.

SUBPROGRAMME 3: PRODUCTIVE, TECHNOLOGICAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subject area 3.5: Factors determining the behaviour of key agents such as transnational corporations, national groups and small and medium-sized companies

It was decided to assign "B" priority to the study on the internationalization of Latin American companies through investment abroad, both inside and outside the region (subparagraph (a) (ii)).

Subject area 3.6: Urban and interurban transport

It was decided to assign "C" priority to the intermediate activities in support of various regional forums in matters connected with urban and interurban transport (paragraph (c)).

SUBPROGRAMME 4: ECONOMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND POLICIES

Subject area 4.2: Analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) It was proposed that "B" priority should be assigned to the study on economic policies designed to help withstand external shocks, with emphasis on the analysis of fluctuations in capital flows in highly volatile situations and their impact on the domestic economy in such aspects as the exchange rate, saving and stability of the banking sector (subparagraph (b) (ii)).

(b) With regard to the subject of external debt and the impact of overindebtedness on development, which was raised by one of the delegations, the secretariat reported that, although for most of the countries of the region the topic no longer had the same priority in the respective national agenda, it continued to monitor debt trends as part of its regular task of analysing the economic situation of the region. Another delegation pointed out that the subject fell within the purview of other bodies and institutions, including the Paris Club.

Subject area 4.5: Analysis of the developed economies of the hemisphere and their incidence on the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) It was decided to assign "C" priority to the information notes on the United States and Canadian economies (subparagraphs (a) (i) and (ii)).

(b) The meeting stressed the need to give due consideration and coverage to subjects relevant to the Caribbean subregion in the work under this subprogramme.

SUBPROGRAMME 5: SOCIAL UNDERPINNING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A number of delegations stressed that the subject of this subprogramme was of great importance to the programme of work as a whole.

Subject area 5.3: Effects of economic and social development policies on well-being and equity

Some delegations requested that "B" priority be given to the expert meeting (paragraph (a)) and the non-recurrent publications (paragraph (b)). No activities were identified which could be reduced in priority to compensate for these changes.

Subject area 5.4: Analysis of the effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs, and integrated strategies for combating them

It was agreed to maintain the priority proposed for activity (c) and to cut down the number of meetings (paragraphs (a) and (b)) to the minimum.

SUBPROGRAMME 6: STRATEGIC ADMINISTRATION AND STATE REFORM

Subject areas 6.1 to 6.5

(a) There were no proposals to change the priorities originally suggested by the secretariat, although some delegations would have liked to assign higher priority to certain activities. The possibility of obtaining more extrabudgetary funding for those activities was mentioned.

(b) There was agreement that it would be necessary to look for ways to enhance the impact of this subprogramme in the Caribbean subregion; the secretariat reported that it had already begun to take steps to that end.

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Subject area 6.6: Changes in the management of mining resources and reform of the energy sector in Latin America and the Caribbean

It was clarified that there was no overlap with subject area 1.7, which dealt with competitiveness, but that the two were complementary.

SUBPROGRAMME 7: ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

Although concern was expressed that ECLAC might be trying to cover too many subjects of a complex nature in view of its limited resources, the secretariat explained, first, that there was good coordination and cooperation with other agencies and organizations concerned with these topics and a sensible division of labour based on their respective comparative advantages; second, that ECLAC was concentrating its efforts on the areas in which it had recognized strength and capacity; and lastly, that it was making an effort to weed out subjects or activities that were more properly handled by other agencies and for which ECLAC could not put together sufficient critical mass.

There was general agreement that the limited resources available should be concentrated on the activities with the highest priority, and hence the following was proposed:

(a) Assign lowest priority to all the activities in subject area 7.3 (Instruments for environmental management and sustainable development and systems of environment-oriented spatial planning);

(b) Reassign to subject areas 7.1 (Evaluation of the implementation of Agenda 21) and 7.2 (Policies for conservation of the biodiversity of the Latin American and the Caribbean countries), human resources previously allocated to other subject areas.

SUBPROGRAMME 8: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Subject area 8.1: Collaboration with the countries of the region in the implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development

It was decided to assign "B" priority to the study on the specific implications of integration in terms of migratory movements (subparagraph (c) (iii)) and to compensate for that change by reducing the number of person/months allocated to another activity or other activities in order to maintain the same overall priority for the subprogramme.

SUBPROGRAMME 9: STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS

There was consensus that the activities included under this subprogramme represented one of the areas of excellence of ECLAC and were, moreover, being carried out in close collaboration with other international organizations concerned with the subject; it was noted that apart from those specifically mentioned, many other tasks were being carried out under the subprogramme with extrabudgetary resources.

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In consequence, no changes were proposed in the priorities suggested by the secretariat for the different activities under the subprogramme.

SUBPROGRAMME 10: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

The delegations expressed their appreciation for the work the secretariat was doing under this subprogramme to support development in the subregion and promote linkages between it and the rest of Latin America and the Caribbean.

It was requested that special attention be paid under this subprogramme to the subject of integration of services in the Central American subregion, for which efforts should be made to obtain extrabudgetary resources.

No changes were proposed in the priorities suggested by the secretariat for the different activities under the subprogramme.

SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Apart from overall considerations concerning the subregion expressed during the general debate, the meeting arrived at some specific conclusions during its examination of this subprogramme. First, the Governments of the subregion required special help in improving the generation of quantitative information. Second, the subregional Governments also required greater technical assistance to help them resolve their development problems, for which the resources currently assigned to the secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) appeared to be inadequate. Third, under all subprogrammes the secretariat should take into consideration and adequately interpret the particular situation of the Caribbean subregion.

Subject area 11.3: Development of production and technology

It was agreed that "B" priority should be given to the expert meeting to analyse various aspects of technology and its relation to the economic and social development of the Caribbean (paragraph (b)).

It was also agreed that "C" priority should be assigned to the study evaluating the science and technology networks operating in the subregion and their effectiveness (subparagraph (c) (iv)).

It was proposed that "B" priority should be assigned to the document on recent trends and developments in the manufacturing sector of some Caribbean countries to be determined (subparagraph (c) (iv)).

No activities were identified which could be reduced in priority to compensate for these changes.

C. Summary

23. At the conclusion of the exercise, it was found that there was a slight imbalance, because the number of activities raised in priority exceeded those lowered in priority. The secretariat pointed out that the imbalance amounted to

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only about 1 per cent and in order to preserve the integrity of the process it would undertake to adjust for the imbalance by changing the number of months of work assigned to the activities in question.

VI. CONCLUSIONS OF THE MEETING

A. Input from the Executive Secretary

24. In summing up the discussion that had taken place over the past three days, the Executive Secretary of ECLAC indicated that he believed he would be correctly interpreting the views of all the participants in outlining a set of general conclusions to be drawn from the present exercise. First, by its very existence, the working group had already amply demonstrated its usefulness as a forum in which the secretariat and the Governments of the member countries could undertake an in-depth examination of the programme of work. Never before had the ECLAC programme of work been debated in such detail, and that debate was evidence of a new approach in keeping with the main aims of the effort to reform the United Nations. Second, the difficulty of structuring a programme of work which fully reflected the desires and objectives of each of the member countries had been demonstrated yet again by the exercise undertaken in the course of the last few days. A number of the dilemmas posed by the design of a relevant programme of activities had been analysed at the most recent session of the Commission in San José during the discussion of the document entitled "Reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC. Note by the secretariat". Those dilemmas had surfaced once again during the present meeting and included the following: finding the dividing line between a concentration on high-impact activities and the necessity of forming an institutional view regarding the wide spectrum of major development issues confronting the Latin American and Caribbean countries; maintaining a certain balance between the allocation of resources to each of the subprogrammes and the possibility of concentrating on a smaller number of subprogrammes; striking the balance often mentioned between analytical and operational activities; distributing activities between the Commission's headquarters in Santiago and its subregional headquarters; and linking funding drawn from budgetary resources with funding from extrabudgetary resources. The greatest dilemma of all, however, was posed by the extraordinarily heavy demand for services in relation to the paucity of resources available to the ECLAC secretariat. Third, analysis of the subprogrammes and their component activities had obscured, to some extent, the overall view of the work programme. Most of the activities included in the 11 subprogrammes reinforced one another, and the secretariat was striving to increase interdivisional activities as a way of ensuring the internal consistency of the programme as a whole. This meeting was only the beginning of the process involved in adapting the Commission's outputs to the level of available resources.

25. In specific terms, a number of adjustments had been made in the priorities for the programme of work. While strong interest had been expressed in raising the priority rankings of numerous activities in the programme, in view of the Organization's present budgetary situation, particular care had been taken to counterbalance the increases in priority assigned to some activities by lowering the priorities assigned to others, although there were some cases in which this

had not proved possible. The secretariat would identify programme elements that might be adjusted in order to achieve that balance. At all events, such cases represented modest amounts and would account for less than 3 per cent of the number of person/months allocated to the execution of the entire programme of work. The table contained in the annex provided an overview of those adjustments.

26. Even more significant than the specific adjustments, however, was the institution of a new approach to the formulation of the programme of work, an approach that with time would no doubt be refined as similar exercises were undertaken as part of the effort to "modernize" - to use the term employed by the Chairman of the working group - the entire United Nations system. Part of this effort involved avoiding overlap and duplication, both within the United Nations system and between its various components and other intergovernmental organizations. This point had been commented upon many times by the working group in connection with the potential for collaboration between ECLAC and other agencies in carrying out joint activities or in identifying their working "niches" based on the comparative advantages of each organization. The Executive Secretary agreed with the sentiments expressed by the representatives on this score and recalled that in addition to the formal mechanisms of coordination that already existed, the secretariat was following - and would continue to follow - a policy of self-monitoring to avoid serious duplication in its programme of work.

27. This led him, in conclusion, to ask what the next steps should be. The first step was obvious, since it was called for in resolution 553 (XXVI): the revised programme of work, with priorities now assigned, together with the report of the meeting of the working group, should be presented to the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council for its consideration during the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly. The next step would involve the future activities of the working group. In this regard, it was his opinion that the group had already demonstrated its usefulness and should meet again whenever circumstances made it advisable, at the request of the secretariat, the Chairman or one of the member States. This was a point on which the representatives would certainly wish to comment.

B. General debate

28. The debate which followed focused on the next steps to be taken to conclude the exercise commenced on this occasion. Some delegations - not the majority - suggested that it would be helpful to hold a further meeting, before the programme of work, with priorities assigned, were submitted to United Nations bodies in New York. Others pointed out that their Governments might find it difficult to send representatives to another meeting. After considering various alternatives, the Chairman suggested a procedure that met with general agreement, which consisted of the following steps. First, the secretariat would send all the delegations a preliminary version of the complete report within a very few days and give them two weeks to convey their comments and observations. The secretariat would then prepare a revised version of the report reflecting as fully as possible the comments and observations it had received and would attempt to strike a balance between the person/months allocated to each

subprogramme in order to maintain the desired proportion between the relative priorities assigned to the work programme. It would then send this revised version to the member Governments. After a further lapse of two weeks, unless it received new comments or observations, the Chairman and the secretariat would present the report of the meeting of the working group together with the programme of work with the agreed priorities to the permanent missions of the States Members of the United Nations in New York.

29. The working group did not have time to examine in depth the other matter raised by the Executive Secretary concerning future activities. Although the usefulness of holding regular meetings, perhaps annually, was generally acknowledged, consideration of the matter was postponed for further consultations.

C. Views of individual delegations

30. While all comments by representatives that represented the consensus of the meeting have been reflected in the final version of this report, some views were advanced by delegations on which there was no general agreement. Those positions are reported below.

31. Two delegations proposed including under subject area 2.2 activities relating to air transport, a topic of vital importance for the Caribbean countries and for the integration process within the region.

32. One delegation suggested that the non-recurrent publication mentioned in subparagraph (c) (ii) under subject area 1.6 should be downgraded from priority category "C" to "D". It also suggested upgrading the priority for the 6 person/months allocated to operational activities (paragraph (c)) under subject area 1.7 from category "C" to "B" and to compensate for that change by downgrading the 6 person/months allocated to intermediate activities (paragraph (d)) under the same subject area from "B" to "C". It further suggested standardizing under one priority category the four non-recurrent publications (subparagraph (b) (i)) under subject area 3.1.

33. One delegation requested that under subject area 4.4 ECLAC should engage in a collaborative programme with UNDP on information technology in the Caribbean and that "B" priority should be assigned to that activity.

34. One delegation suggested reducing the number of person/months allocated to the non-recurrent publications (subparagraph (a) (iii)) under subject area 4.5 and to intergovernmental meetings (subparagraphs (a) (i), (ii) and (iii)) under subject area 6.5. It also proposed downgrading the intermediate activities (subparagraph (d)) under subject area 6.6 from priority category "B" to "C".

35. One delegation proposed eliminating altogether subject area 5.3 from the programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999.

36. One delegation suggested assigning "B" priority to the non-recurrent publication mentioned in subparagraph (a) (i) and the operational activities mentioned in subparagraph (b) (i) under subject area 7.3.

37. Two delegations proposed rationalizing the number of studies contemplated under subprogramme 11.

38. One delegation proposed reallocating resources from subprogramme 1 (Linkages with the global economy, competitiveness and production specialization) to subprogramme 11 (Subregional activities in the Caribbean), as follows:

- 2 person/months to be transferred from subject area 1.2, paragraph (c), to subject area 11.3, paragraph (c);
- 4 person/months to be transferred from subject area 1.7, paragraph (c), to subject area 11.4, subparagraph (c) (i).

39. One delegation proposed that the services to be provided under subject area 11.3, paragraph (e), and subject area 11.4, subparagraph (e) (i), should be implemented through the use of funds from the regular budget.

40. One delegation proposed assigning "B" priority to the study evaluating the possibilities for greater development of the industrial sector in some Caribbean countries (subject area 11.3, subparagraph (c) (ii)) and, to compensate for the change, assigning "C" priority to the study evaluating the efficacy of the projects on renewable sources of energy carried out in the Caribbean (subject area 11.3, subparagraph (c) (vii)).

41. Two delegations proposed that the working group should be transformed into a permanent body of the Commission.

42. Lastly, some delegations suggested that the final version of this document should be re-examined at a meeting of representatives from the permanent missions to the United Nations.

VII. CLOSING

43. In closing, the Chairman praised the energetic spirit and the frank and cordial atmosphere that had prevailed throughout the course of the meeting and said that he believed he spoke for all those present in saying that the participants could return to their respective countries fully satisfied with the work they had accomplished.

44. After thanking all the representatives, the Executive Secretary noted the broad participation, the high level of the delegations and the responsible manner in which they had made their views known to the secretariat. He expressed special thanks to Mr. Melvin Sáenz for his splendid chairmanship of the meeting and to the delegates for the dedication they had brought to their work. Finally, he applauded the highly constructive spirit that had characterized the entire meeting.

Appendix

CHANGES SUGGESTED BY THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP IN THE ORDER
OF PRIORITIES PROPOSED BY THE SECRETARIAT FOR EXECUTION OF
THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ECLAC SYSTEM, 1998-1999

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 1: LINKAGES WITH THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTION SPECIALIZATION					
1.2 National trade policies and market integration					
a) <u>Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts</u> Expert meeting to consider the room for action open to the Governments of the region as regards their policies for improving linkages with the global economy.		x ¹		(x) ²	5
b) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u> i) A study on the impact of multilateral, regional and hemispheric commitments on trade policies in the region.		x		(x)	11

¹ In what follows, x shall indicate the change in priority category suggested by the group as the outcome of its work.

² In what follows, (x) shall indicate the priority category originally proposed by the secretariat to the meeting of the working group.

...

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
1.5 Patterns of trade specialization a) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u> iii) A study on technological development and exports, based on a comparative analysis of various Asian and Latin American experiences.		(x)		x	14

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 2: INTEGRATION, OPEN REGIONALISM AND REGIONAL COOPERATION					
2.2 Intraregional investments: the internationalisation of Latin American companies					
c) <u>Operational activities</u>					
<u>Advisory services</u>					
Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the experiences of small and medium-sized firms in regional and subregional integration schemes. (XB)		X	(x)		1

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 3: PRODUCTIVE, TECHNOLOGICAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT					
3.5 Factors determining the behaviour of key agents such as transnational corporations, national groups and small and medium-sized companies					
a) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u>					
ii) A study on the internationalization of Latin American companies through investment abroad, both inside and outside the region.		X		(X)	3
3.6 Urban and interurban transport					
c) <u>Intermediate activities</u>		(X)	X		3
Support for the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works and the permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) on matters connected with urban and interurban transport.					

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 4: ECONOMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND POLICIES					
4.2 Analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean					
b) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u> ii) A study on economic policies designed to help withstand external shocks, with emphasis on the analysis of fluctuations in capital flows in highly volatile situations and their impact on the domestic economy in such aspects as the exchange rate, saving and stability of the banking sector.		X	(X)		24
4.5 Analysis of the developed economies of the hemisphere and their incidence on the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean					
a) <u>Non-periodic publications</u> i) Two annual information notes on the United States and Canadian economies. ii) Two annual information notes on the Canadian economy.		(X)	X		6 6

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 5: SOCIAL UNDERPINNING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					
5.3 Effects of economic and social development policies on well-being and equity					
a) <u>Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts</u> Expert meeting on economic and social changes, critical obstacles in the human capital and labour markets, and their effects on well-being and equity. b) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u> Two studies on the effects of economic and social development policies on well-being and equity, with emphasis on proposals for active instruments to make it possible to overcome critical obstacles in the main human capital and labour markets.		X		(x)	6
		X		(x)	12

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 7: ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY					
7.3 Instruments for environmental management and sustainable development and systems of environment-oriented spatial planning a) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u> ii) A study on environment-oriented spatial planning in the context of the process of regionalization and transfer of responsibilities to local authorities. special attention will be given to the incorporation of environmental concepts such as hydrographic basin management and environmental impact assessment in territorial planning.		(x)		x	10

SUBPROGRAMMES / SUBJECT AREAS / ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 8: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT					
8.1 Collaboration with the countries of the region in the implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development					
c) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u>					
iii) A study on the specific implications of integration in terms of migratory movements.		X	(x)		3

SUBPROGRAMMES/ SUBJECT AREAS/ ACTIVITIES	RELATIVE PRIORITY				Estimated funding (expressed in person/months)
	A	B	C	D	
	10%	75%	10%	5%	
SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN					
11.3 Development of production and technology					
b) <u>Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts</u> Expert meeting to analyse various aspects of technology and its relation to the economic and social development of the Caribbean.		X	(X)		4
c) <u>Non-recurrent publications</u>					
iv) A study evaluating the science and technology networks operating in the subregion and their effectiveness.		(X)	X		4
v) A document on recent trends and developments in the manufacturing sector of some Caribbean countries to be determined.		X		(X)	4